

The North Carolina Standard.

THOMAS LORING,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION OF THE STATES—THEY "MUST BE PRESERVED."

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TERMS.

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THE LAST APPEAL.

The papers of all persons indebted for the North Carolina Standard for one year and upwards, will be discontinued on the first of June, 1842.

MOVEMENTS OF THE DEMOCRACY.

From the Oxford Mercury.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

Pursuant to previous notice, a large number of the Democratic Republicans of Granville, met on Monday, the 28th of March, in the Court House in Oxford.

On motion of J. M. Stone, T. B. Barnett was called to the Chair, and Benj. C. Cook appointed Secretary.

On motion of Jonathan M. Stone, the Chairman appointed Thomas B. Lewis, J. M. Stone, Thos. V. Duke, Sam'l. Moss, Wyatt Cannaday, Benj. C. Cook and Elkannah Lyon to prepare resolutions expressive of the object of the meeting.

Benj. C. Cook from the committee introduced the following report and resolutions:

In a republic where all power is derived from the people, and where the government was intended and established for their benefit, it is not only the right, but the duty of each and every citizen, to express his opinion upon all matters of public concern.

Ever there was a time when the Democracy of the country were solemnly called upon to exercise this undeniable right, to perform this great and important duty, it is now, when those who have delegated to speak for us, and who would have boldly given utterance to our sentiments, are denied the right of free debate in the councils of the nation. "When the representative is gagged, it is more than ever becomes the people to speak." We, therefore, a portion of the freemen of Granville, charge that the Extra Session of Congress was called for by the wants of the government; that a very great expenditure of the public money was thus unnecessarily incurred; that in our opinion, that extraordinary session was convoked for the purpose of defeating the public will, by forcing through Congress, in the intoxication and madness of party feeling, certain favorite measures, which our opponents as a party, have feared to bring before the people, or advocate or present as their intended policy in the previous elections. In the fierce contest they brought forward their men, but not their measures; it is plain that their object was to leave the question of principle in a glorious uncertainty, and thus to unite men in opposition, whom it was vain to attempt to unite upon any other point; no other policy would have held out the remotest hope of success; if it is now manifest that the strongest, if not the only bond of union among the reformers, was opposition to the party in power. It is an answer to refer to the dazzling promises which were so beautifully shadowed in Federal newspapers and in the banners of their prominent orators; for these, like their log cabin and hard cider demagogues, being signed to catch the popular vote, were in quite as many varieties as there were States in the Union; besides these were not made by the party as a whole, but shaped by political leaders to suit the particular views of each different section of country, without the slightest reference to the promises which were made or the principles that were ever avowed by their friends in other parts of the Union. It is true that all portions of the party made vague and indefinite promises about reform and retrenchment. But the charge that there was no agreed policy which received the general concurrence, is proved by the fact that the Harrisburg Convention, the only authentic organ of the party, made no declaration of their principles whatever. If further proof is asked for, it may be abundantly found in the developments of the extra session, in the conflicting principles between the "Tyler Whigs" and "Clay Whigs," the "Bank Whigs" and "Anti-Bank Whigs," the "Abstractionists" and "Incorrigibles." It may be found in the encounters in the polite epithets of perfidy and treachery which this "band of brothers" mutually black-balled and defame each other. This can hardly now be called a "union of the whigs for the sake of the Union."

But that great prodigy, the whig party, is actually in power; they were to regulate exchanges, to reform abuses, to raise the wages of labor, and do whatever else might be thought desirable and proper; they who were to make money plenty, and be the poor man's friend, hold the ensigns of office. What have they done? Have they redeemed their promises? Have they made good their word? Let the bitter denunciations of a deceived and disappointed people answer; they have answered wherever the polls have been opened, by one of the most decisive and overwhelming rebukes that was ever given to the rulers of a free people.

Under the pretence of supplying the wants of the treasury, the Reformers had called an extra session of Congress, and to make the revenue still more insufficient for the purposes of government, they have surrendered to the States the annual proceeds of the public domain, and at the same time have passed an act to borrow twelve millions of dollars, and increased the taxes to supply the deficiency in the treasury occasioned by the distribution, and to meet the expenditures of the government. And we cannot forget that they promised, if any deficiency should occur by reason of this bill, it would supply it by a tax on luxuries, such as Wines and Silks; we find that new taxes have

been laid, not only on luxuries, but on necessities also, and that a tax of 20 per cent. has been retined on many other articles of prime necessity to every farmer in the country. In view of the fact that there is no surplus in the treasury to distribute—that every dollar of the public money is required for the purposes of government; and that every dollar received by the States will have to be returned to the treasury by indirect taxation upon the people, with the additional expenses of collection and disbursement—in view of these facts, we say legislation such as this must excite in the minds of every man not blinded by party zeal, the fear that it was intended for no good purposes.—We have not forgotten that this scheme of disbursement originated with the manufacturing interests of the north, for the avowed purpose of taking from the government this important source of its revenue in order to create a necessity for increasing the tariff to supply its place—protection was their object, and of course the higher the duties on imports, such as were manufactured at home, the better for them. We are not thus to be bought up with our own money—we are not so ignorant as to be unable to comprehend that though the State may receive by this act the money resulting from the sales of the public lands, yet the people will have to pay it back in the shape of taxes on the articles they consume.

They promised retrenchment and reform and have already increased the expenditures. They engraved upon their banners in glittering capitals "the separation of the purse and the sword," and have repealed the only law which produced that separation. They promised "to prescribe prohibition," and yet in the face of the most solemn pledges to the country, the removals made by the whigs, as stated by the Hon. Levi Woodbury, "have exceeded in six months all removed by the Democrats in twelve years." In their indiscriminate proscription in some of the States, to make room for the hungry expectants who infested the capital like the locusts of Egypt, they have spared neither age nor merit, nor want-aged veterans, whose heads were white with the frosts of fifty years—men who, in the days of their manhood, had served their country in the tented field—have been turned out to starve, and that too when their only crime was a difference in political opinions. So much for those who, before the election, despised the spoils of victory! They have twice attempted to establish a National Bank, and finding themselves defeated in this, by the firmness of John Tyler, who has interposed his Executive veto, they now discover that this power is a badge of monarchy, and say it must be forthwith plucked from the constitution. We, who have lived for more than half a century, under the present constitution, are now asked, in a moment of passion, to take that venerable instrument to pieces because it happens, just at this time, to be troublesome to those who think it necessary to fasten upon the country a measure unauthorized by the constitution, condemned by the people, and dangerous to our liberties. We shall be slow to believe that they, among whom were Washington, Franklin and Madison, would have inserted in the charter of their rights a power dangerous to the great principles of freedom for which they had so long contended. There never was a time when the power was more demanded or better exercised than during the extra session when a reckless majority, by means of caucus dictation, had forced through Congress, in defiance of the public will, a measure which the people had previously condemned and have since condemned; a measure which, as a party, they had feared to publish before the elections, as a part of their intended policy. And thus we see in the shortest possible space of time "the victors vanquished and the vanquished victorious." And as an expression of our opinions on State and Federal matters, be it

Resolved, That we are opposed to the distribution bill. That it is a tariff measure in disguise, calculated to oppress the people, and especially the south, for the benefit of northern manufacturers, and more particularly do we oppose it when there is a deficiency in the treasury.

Resolved, That we are in favor of any constitutional measure which shall have for its object the restoration of a sound circulating medium, so essentially necessary to give confidence in all the transactions in life, to secure to industry its just and adequate rewards, and to re-establish the public prosperity.

Resolved, That we are opposed to paying the present majority in Congress for doing worse than nothing, and then paying them for undoing the same, and we are also opposed to the squandering of the public money by the present Congress.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the Banks resuming immediately.

Therefore resolved, That we cordially approve of the nomination of the Hon. LOUIS D. HENRY as our next Governor, and will use all honorable and just means to secure his election.

Resolved, That we will, with gratification and pride, nominate for the Senate ELIJAH HESTER, Esq.

Resolved, That we nominate Col. Wesley W. Young, Gen. Thos. W. Norman and Wm. Russell, to represent us in the next Commons branch of our Legislature. And in such hands who can despair of the Republic?

Resolved, That the same committee are appointed to acquit the nominees of their nomination.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to the Oxford Mercury and the Raleigh Standard for publication.

THOS. B. BARNETT, Chairman.
BENJ. C. COOK, Secretary.

GREAT FIRE IN NEW YORK!
One hundred houses burned—three hundred families turned destitute into the streets!!
A tremendous conflagration occurred in New York on Thursday, the 31st March, or rather there were a series of fires during the afternoon of that day and evening.

The conflagration produced a greater destruction of property and distress than any which has occurred since the memorable "Great Fire" in New York in 1835.

One, and the most calamitous of the fires, broke out about three o'clock, in the two story frame building occupied as a grocery and dwelling, at the south east corner of Christie and Delancy streets. The wind was blowing a gale, and the fire soon made a clean sweep through to Forsyth, and then across Forsyth, more than half way to Elkridge street in front and quite through the rear, two blocks on the left side of Christie street half way to Broome, and then on the right side of Elkridge to Broome. Two brick buildings on Elkridge street, Nos. 92 and 94, across Broome, were also entirely consumed.

In Christie street, besides the building in which the fire originated, three small buildings and one two story brick dwelling were consumed and the "Second Congregational Church"—formerly known as Chase's Church, was considerably damaged.

On Delancy street, west of Forsyth street, a marble manufactory, a German potter House, two story brick dwelling, a three story brick store and dwelling on the corner, and several frame buildings were destroyed. East of Forsyth street a two story brick grocery and dwelling, and two two story brick dwellings, were consumed, and three others unroofed and nearly demolished.

On Forsyth street, from ten to twelve buildings on each side, mostly neat two story brick dwellings were consumed.

On Elkridge street, north of Broome, west side, ten or twelve buildings, similar in description to those on Forsyth street, were consumed; those on the east side escaped, though much scorched.—South of Broome street, three two story brick dwellings were destroyed.

On Broome street six or eight two story brick dwellings were consumed, and the four or five remaining were saved with great exertion and perseverance on the part of the firemen.

The number of houses destroyed cannot fall short of one hundred, and were tenanted chiefly by that portion of the community who cannot afford to bear the loss. Hundreds of families have lost their all by this melancholy calamity. It would be a moderate estimate to average the number of families to two or three in each house.

Of the value of the property consumed, no correct estimate can as yet be formed. Probably not less than forty-five or fifty of the dwellings were worth from \$3000 to \$4000; and it would be a moderate estimate to compute the value of the balance of the property consumed at about half as much more—making an aggregate of some \$300,000. To this appalling loss may doubtless be added furniture, &c. to the amount of twenty or thirty thousand dollars.

While this fire was raging, another broke out about four o'clock in the rear of 524 Pearl street, in a bakery, and owing to the absence of all the engines at the fire up town, the rear of five buildings were in flames before any thing could be done towards checking it. The fire soon spread through to Anthony st. on one side, and Elm on the other, destroying some thirty buildings of all kinds. The rear of No. 524 to 530 on Pearl street were much damaged, together with the rear of 39 Elm, and the buildings adjoining; indeed the grocery store, corner of Elm and Anthony, was about the only one of the block unroofed.

By these two great fires some three hundred families, nearly all poor people, have been turned out of doors, most of them with the destruction or great damage to their furniture and property.

The upper parts of the city were in a high state of alarm, but so high was the wind that thousands of persons in the lower wards never knew there was a fire.

Another fire broke out at half past 12 o'clock the same night, at the corner of Maiden lane and Nassau street, but was happily subdued without much trouble.

From the North Carolina.

MR. HENRY AND THE LAST WAR.

The political opponents of Mr. Henry, in the Western part of the State, are endeavoring to make the impression on the public mind, that he was opposed to the last war. On a former occasion, we corrected this false rumor, by publishing an extract from a speech delivered by Mr. Henry in 1814, and for the same purpose, we republish the extract as the best refutation of this vile slander.

When war was declared against Great Britain, in 1812, Mr. Henry was not of age. His sentiments in regard to its vigorous prosecution as seen in the subject of an extract from an oration delivered by him in Fayetteville, on the 4th of July, 1814, are noble and patriotic—they completely put down all the whig slanders of him on that subject. Such lofty and patriotic sentiments from a young man, just entering into life, argue the early and strong love of liberty which has marked Mr. Henry's maturer age.

But who are they that prefer this charge?—What imbecile patriots are they who are falsely denouncing Mr. H. for opposition to the last war? They are men who had Daniel Webster to the skies—who voted for the man as President, who made Daniel Webster Secretary of State—Daniel Webster, who boldly, openly and vigorously opposed the last war for the American Army—Congress against supplies for the American Army—who uttered the traitorous sentiment that "it did not become a moral and religious people to rejoice at the victories won by their countrymen." This Daniel Webster, who did all and every thing to oppose the war, and embarrass his country after war was declared, is now the Magnus Apollo of whiggery, the champion of their principles, and their prime minister.

But to the extract, it will speak for itself, and put to the blush, (if such a thing is possible) those who are doing Mr. Henry gross injustice.

"But sufficient that our country's honor is at stake, and we, as freemen, are bound to defend it. Now! let no unwhipped tongue of traitor be heard among us. Let party distinction be hushed in the dust. The cause we fight for is a common cause. The liberty it achieves is as much the right of him who hangs over the plough, as him who is seated in authority. The duties it exacts are all bound to yield. We are, my friends, all Federalists, all Republicans. Our country's prosperity is the prosperity of every one of us; and he who will basely desert her in the hour of tribulation, let his name be obliterated from the book of our remembrance. As a nation, we ought to unite to establish a name among the nations of the earth, to shew the world we will always repel aggression on our rights. As policy, we ought to unite to put an end to the war, (no matter how unjust in its cause, if such it be, or odious in its prosecution) else by division we prolong its calamities, and by the defeat of our armies reflect disgrace on our national character. I know there is a hope at this time indulged among you that the late happy changes in Europe will restore to you a peace. But my friends, lay no such flattering union to your souls! Let hope might liken you to the foolish Carthaginians at Cannae, who lost that by inattention which necessity might have gained them. In war, we must seek peace at the mouths of our cannon. In peace we must avert war by a wise and virtuous legislation."

This is the first serious war since our revolution, it therefore becomes us to show the firmness of union and valor, to protect us against insult in future. Whatever our conduct is now, it will

have a great bearing upon our future happiness or misery as a nation. Sure we want not courage to the task? We have before measured swords with our adversary and foiled her in the field! The heights of Charleston where the American eagle rode triumphant over the bloody outset of the revolution, and the plains of Princeton, where it sat perched upon the British standard will ever testify the valor of Americans. Never! then let the curse of cowardice fall on our heads. Never! let it be said our fathers bled and died for our birth-rights, and we were too base to defend them. Never! let it be said that in this land, where freedom found an asylum from the despots of Europe we were wanting in virtue to protect it. No, never!

"And I could rehearse deeds of valor in this present war, that ought to inspire us with confidence. The achievements of our gallant little navy have surpassed our most sanguine expectations. The skill and intrepidity of our tars in every engagement have confounded their adversaries; the superiority of our maneuvering and the despatch of the victory have forever broke the charm of her naval invincibility. Her proud pretensions have been humbled, her sensibility wounded to the quick. In all the warfare she has ever been engaged—this she appears to dole over as the most grievous and lamentable; yea! she mourns and grieves as a mother over her lost child."

"To be sure our prospects have been darkened on land, but this is no cause to despair. To contend with an enemy veteran in discipline and experience, allied with a savage people, sanguinary in a mode of warfare peculiar for its dreadful features of atrocity, and that conducted in a manner hardly attainable in the practice of civilized nations; seated too in the interminable wilds of our northern frontiers, remote from assistance and supplies—required a preparation we have too severely felt the want of, hence our armies have met with defeat; but such shall not long be the case when time shall have given us experience and preparation, we a people so fertile in resources and vigorous in constitution, if united, must meet with success."

From the Boston Recorder.

DELIRIUM TREMENS.—A SKETCH.

The delirium tremens is one of the most frightful consequences of intemperance. When the wretched victim of unbridled appetite, has indulged to a certain extent in his accustomed stimulant, his reeling brain conjures up a multitude of fancies far more horrible than ever realized the wildest maniac. The concluding scene with such an individual is indescribably fearful. Death in all its Protean variety, has never afflicted me with such sensations as I have experienced when standing by the wretched inebriate, suffering with this terrible disorder. One case to which my mind reverts, was marked with circumstances of painful interest. Esquire Lang was a wealthy gentleman farmer of extensive repute. He was a worthy member of the State Legislature, an excellent neighbor, and in days when a periodical revel was rarely accounted an evil, a man of irreproachable moral character. Few, even in his own domestic circle, referred the bloated corpulency of his naturally large system and the fiery flush of his full face, to the legitimate cause. His daily draughts of Cogniac and his regularly retiring to bed every day after dinner, were the only practices which the most scrupulous whispered to his discredit. But abused appetite forces us sooner or later to pay the forfeit. Mr. Lang was arrested in his intemperate course by a fit of strong apoplexy. He had been partially recovered by the energetic application of the usual restorants and all stimulating food and drinks, strongly interdicted as certain hindrances to entire convalescence. His brain, now tortured with emptiness as it had before been with plethora, was giving birth to all the wild and horrible imaginations of delirium tremens. I tied my horse under one of his ample sheds and entered without ceremony. He sat bolt upright in his bed, and his countenance was the image of despair. His eyes were alternately fitfully glancing, or fearfully rolling in their strained sockets, as if in pursuit of ever changing objects, now advancing, now retreating, and now flitting with electric rapidity over the field of vision. Startled at my entrance, he looked up and vehemently exclaimed, "Would you rob me?" Again recoiling from my proffered hand, he shrieked, "You would murder me!" and sprang from the opposite side of his couch with superhuman energy. The injudicious opposition of his friends to his whims, had preluded him to an alarming degree. He utterly and obstinately refused any draught, and was only retained by force from leaping from the windows of his apartment to escape these visionary yet to him real tormentors. Grasping the clothes convulsively as we replaced him in bed, he buried himself beneath half a dozen blankets. "Halt there yet!" he muttered in stifled tones, and flung the covering from himself to the floor with starting suddenness. Soothing words calmed him occasionally, but he seldom lost sight for a moment of the phantoms dancing attendance upon his unthroned imagination. Now terror beamed from every lineament. "Fiends!" he exclaimed, shrinking backward and elevating his head for defence. Again his face exhibited every mark of strong loathing and disgust. "Snakes!" said he, "are they crawling?" "See! they are on my bed!" "Keep them off!" raising his voice with each successive exclamation. Now his eyes rapidly traversed the circumference of a circle which was rapidly lessening. "See! they are on me!" he exclaimed, when his person was embraced within the narrow limits. "Why don't you keep them off?" The expression of his features, his intense agitations, his motions were all those of one upon whom ten thousand reptiles were trailing their scaly bodies.

Again fixing his eyes upon a retired corner of the room, he shook with an unearthly shudder, as if some new horror had greeted his vision. "What do you see there?" inquired his anxious and distressed wife. "Two!" he whispered. "Two what?" said I. "Two horrid, horrid fellows!" He shuddered convulsively. "Keep them away!" said he faintly, after another half hour of anxious silence. Our hopeless task of baffling the angry wind was renewed with the usual success. "Take them away!" he groined, "they are coming! they are coming!" I threw myself into a posture of defence. He grew calm for a few moments. Then suddenly starting up, he clenched his fists, raised them to his right shoulder in boxing attitude, glared fear and fury from his bloodshot eyes, threw in agony, "they come! they come!" struck three or four times with appalling energy at the approaching phantoms, and fell back upon his couch—a ghastly corpse.

September, 1840. A fact

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the North Carolina Standard.
"MULTUM IN PARVO."

It is the practice with a vast number of writers for the public, to first set down the thoughts as they present themselves, and afterwards transcribe them in better order and language. Thoughts, on most occasions, and particularly in a fertile mind, rise at random and with little or no available connection, and, therefore, require suitable places according to their distinction and respective forces and points. Their well-ordering for the success of the argument you support, is as necessary as is the nice arrangement of a house for all the purposes of a dwelling and durability, or the dividing an army into front wings and rear, &c. for the exigencies of war.

In every discourse an exordium is as requisite as a peroration: "order is heaven's first law."

But are the thoughts, when transcribed into what is termed better language, always improved? is a question worth reflection. I would say no, emphatically no. In nine cases out of ten they lose half their effect or are crowded out altogether.

Words ought always to hold fast to their legitimate and original office, which is to express to the eye and ear the ideas they represent. They are simply modes of conveyance.

If we were to see six or eight wagons entering our market with but one load of provisions amongst the whole, we would quickly pronounce the owner a madman, for surely no man in his senses would contend that his provisions were any better because they were paraded in procession.—This is rather a coarse comparison, but is plain and intelligible.

In such a position does that writer place himself who mistakes the shadow for the substance.

Words are mere trifles compared with the ideas, which are the heart and soul of every argument.

I am as fond of well finished sentences as any man, but wherever I see them I find little or nothing worth remembering. "It is not all gold that glitters." And a writer of solid talents needs no such meretricious aid, for he speaks to the mind alone. Such men do not write or utter a word superfluous, and by this course, if they do not succeed in convincing, they show at least, like good commanders, that their means of defence and attack do not consist in the waving of banners and sounding of trumpets, but in heavy lead and steel. If you smother up the ideas in a profusion of words, where can you find the sense? Your reader receives nothing for his pains but a buzz such as those bees create who make no honey.

Watch closely the workings of your own thinking powers, and you will discover that there exists a certain attraction between ideas and the words that are to express them, simultaneous with their very birth. The little fellows put on, each his own native dress, the very moment they are able to tell themselves. In such garb they appear best, and are best felt. Nature is an exquisite artist, and in most cases, should be left to herself. When the poet said that "Nature's dress was loveliness, and beauty adorned was adorned the most," he meant, with respect to the former, that she was most suitably attired when "in puris naturalibus," and, with respect to the latter, we had better let well enough alone. We cannot apply this principle in the communicating of our thoughts and feelings as closely as it demands; and yet it would seem that we can, for the little spirits themselves oftentimes take wing and fly into our faces without leave or warning, and speak unutterable things in our eyes; and when they do so, they strike the observer with ten times the force that language can wield. The face, in conjunction with gestures, is a most powerful agent, proving, beyond doubt, that the fewer words we use the better. To be sure I would not have you look at each other and speak not a word; no, let this plan be pursued by lovers. But I would have you just contemplate the feelings and wonder of the Roman senators, when they received the famous letter from Caesar, which enclosed the simple words—"Veni, vidi, vici;" and when those same men heard from the dying hero's lips, the memorable "at tu Brute," which pierced deeper into that noble assassin's heart than had any of the conspirators' daggers, that of their victim's. And what think you of the effect that the philosopher Archimedes produced when he ran through the public streets, crying out,ureka! eureka! eureka! Was there a man of any capacity who did not understand and sympathize with him?

It grieves me much when I hear a preacher undertake to explain and elucidate a text which is in itself at once comprehensive and self-evident.—Indeed there is no book that contains so many striking examples of the style I would recommend as does the Bible, which might justly claim, on this very ground, a portion of its right to divine authority.

Bacon, Locke and Doctor Franklin were remarkable for total disregard to ornament in language, from the fact that they studied to give the world solid matter; and where can you find a spot on the earth, where intelligence exists, that has not its admirers of their works—works whose merits have no equal? The plainest things are almost always the soundest. Even the diamond condescends to dwell in a stone that bears as much resemblance to its brilliant inmate as does the coarse shell which contains the pearl. The vegetable kingdom furnishes us with thousands of instances of the same fact. We need not mention a single evidence in corroboration, that of our own pine tree, whose exterior is barrenness in contrast with the rich treasures within.

Language, in fine, should be sparingly used and never allowed to usurp the place of thought.—Writers for the public, particularly a busy, practical public, who have little or no time to devote to literature, should furnish such naturally written, brief and substantial articles as their readers would peruse with their minds, as it were and not with their eyes.

By such a course we should receive all grain and no chaff, and both parties would be mutually benefited, whilst a great amount of precious time and labour would be saved; the wordy composition being left to the schoolboy alone, whose educator allows him to indulge in as much verbosity as he pleases for the purpose of teaching him spelling, geography, and other useful branches of education.

"VERBUM SAT."

Meetings have been held in Philadelphia and New York, favorable to the Independence of Texas. In the latter city, it is proposed to enlist a body of men to go to Texas, on a hunting excursion—game is said to be plenty, particularly

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

March 22, 1842.

Mr. Marshall was proceeding to reply to Mr. Wise, and defend the majority in Congress from imputations cast upon them by the member from Virginia, and by others out of doors, when a message was announced from the President of the United States.

The Committee was broken up to receive it, and the Speaker received the message.

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Notwithstanding the urgency with which I have, on more than one occasion, felt it my duty to press upon Congress the necessity of providing the Government with the means of discharging its debts, and maintaining inviolate the public faith, the increasing embarrassments of the Treasury impose upon me the indispensable obligations of again inviting your most serious attention to the condition of the finances. Fortunately for myself, in thus bringing this important subject to your view, for a deliberate and comprehensive examination of it in all its bearings, and I trust I may add, for a final adjustment of it, to the common advantage of the whole Union, I am permitted to approach it with perfect freedom and candor. As few of the burdens for which provision is now required to be made, have been brought upon the country during my short administration of its affairs, I have neither motive nor wish to make them a matter of recrimination against any of my predecessors. I am disposed to regard, as I am bound to treat them, as facts, which cannot now be undone, as deeply interesting to us all, and equally imposing upon all, the most solemn duties. And the only use I would make of the errors of the past, is, by a careful examination of their causes and character, to avoid, if possible, the repetition of them in future. The condition of the country indeed is such, as may well arrest the conflict of parties. The conviction seems at length to have made its way to the minds of all, that the disproportion between the public responsibilities, and the means provided for meeting them, is no casual nor transient evil. It is on the contrary, one which must, for some years to come, notwithstanding a resort to all reasonable retrenchments, and the constant progress of the country in population and productive power, continue to increase under existing laws, unless we consent to give up or impair all our defenses in war and peace. But this is a thought which I am persuaded no patriotic mind, will for a moment entertain. Without affecting an alarm which I do not feel, in regard to our foreign relations, it may safely be affirmed, that they are in a state too critical, and involve too many momentous issues to permit us to neglect, in the least, much less to abandon entirely, those means of asserting our rights, without which, negotiation is without dignity, and peace without security.

In the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, submitted to Congress at the commencement of the present session, it is estimated that after exhausting all the probable resources of the year, there will remain a deficit of \$14,000,000. With a view partly to a permanent system of revenue, and partly to immediate relief from actual embarrassment, that officer recommended, together with a plan for establishing a Government Exchequer, some expedients of a more temporary character, viz: the issuing of Treasury notes, and the extension of the time for which the loan, authorized to be negotiated by the act of the last session, should be taken, Congress accordingly provided for the issue of Treasury notes to the amount of \$3,500,000, but subject to the condition that they should not be paid away below par. No measure connected with the last of the two objects above mentioned, was introduced until recently into the House of Representatives. Should the Loan bill, now pending before that body, pass into a law for its present amount, there would still remain a deficit of \$2,500,000. It requires no argument to show that such a condition of the Treasury is incompatible not only with a high state of public credit, but with any thing approaching to efficiency in the conduct of public affairs. It must be obvious, even to the most inexperienced minds, that to say nothing of any particular exigency, actual or imminent, there should be at all times in the Treasury, of a great nation, with a view to contingencies of ordinary occurrence, a surplus at least equal in amount to the deficiency. But that deficiency, serious as it would be in itself, will, I am compelled to say, rather be increased than diminished, without the adoption of measures adequate to correct the evil at once. The stagnation of trade and business, in some degree incident to the derangement of the national finances and the state of the revenue laws, holds out but little prospect of relief, in the ordinary course of things, for some time to come.

Under such circumstances I am deeply impressed with the necessity of meeting the crisis with a vigor and decision which imperatively demands at the hands of all entrusted with the conduct of public affairs. The gravity of the evil calls for a remedy proportioned to it. No slight palliatives, or occasional expedients, will give the country the relief it needs. Such measures, on the contrary, will in the end, as is now manifest to all, too surely multiply its embarrassments. Relying, as I am bound to do, on the Representatives of a People rendered illustrious among nations, by having paid off its whole public debt, I shall not shrink from the responsibility imposed upon me by the Constitution, of pointing out such measures as will, in my opinion, ensure adequate relief.—I am the more encouraged to recommend the course which necessity exacts, by the confidence which I have in its complete success. The resources of the country, in every thing that constitutes the wealth and strength of nations, are so abundant, the spirit of a most industrious, enterprising and intelligent people, is so energetic and elastic that the Government will be without the shadow of excuse for its delinquency, if the difficulties which now perplex and embarrass it, be not speedily and effectually removed.

From present indications, it is hardly doubtful that Congress will find it necessary to lay additional duties on imports in order to meet the ordinary current expenses of the Government. In the exercise of a sound discrimination, having reference to revenue, but at the same time necessarily affording incidental protection to manufacturing industry, it seems equally probable that duties on some articles of importation will have to be advanced above 20 per cent. In performing this important work of revising the tariff of duties, which in the present emergency, would seem to be indispensable, I cannot too strongly recommend the cultivation of a spirit of mutual harmony and concession to which the Government itself owes its origin, and without the continued exercise of which